

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims. Applicants note that the Examiner reordered and renumbered the claims in the Examiner's amendment of April 19, 2004. Accordingly, the present listing of claims is based on the Examiner's reordered and renumbered claims.

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:
 - (a) an amino acid sequence comprising residues +1 to +371 of SEQ ID NO:2;
 - (b) an amino acid sequence comprising residues +2 to +371 of SEQ ID NO:2;and
 - (c) an amino acid sequence comprising residues +23 to +371 of SEQ ID NO:2.
2. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 1 which comprises amino acid sequence (a).
3. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 1 which comprises amino acid sequence (b).
4. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 1 which comprises amino acid sequence (c).
5. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 1 wherein said amino acid sequence further comprises a heterologous polypeptide sequence.
6. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 5 wherein said heterologous polypeptide sequence is that of the Fc domain of immunoglobulin.
7. (previously presented) A composition comprising the isolated polypeptide of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

8. (previously presented) An isolated heterodimer comprising the isolated polypeptide of claim 1.

9. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) an amino acid sequence of the full length polypeptide encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641;

(b) an amino acid sequence of the full length polypeptide, excluding the N-terminal methionine residue, encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641; and

(c) an amino acid sequence of the mature polypeptide encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641.

10. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 9 which comprises amino acid sequence (a).

11. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 9 which comprises amino acid sequence (b).

12. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 9 which comprises amino acid sequence (c).

13. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 9 wherein said amino acid sequence further comprises a heterologous polypeptide sequence.

14. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 13 wherein said heterologous polypeptide sequence is that of the Fc domain of immunoglobulin.

15. (previously presented) A composition comprising the isolated polypeptide of claim 9 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

16. (previously presented) An isolated heterodimer comprising the isolated polypeptide of claim 9.

17. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide consisting of amino acid residues +1 to +231 of SEQ ID NO:2.

18. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide consisting of amino acid residues selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) amino acid residues +23 to +231 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (b) amino acid residues +23 to +225 of SEQ ID NO:2; and
- (c) amino acid residues +226 to +260 of SEQ ID NO:2.

19. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide consisting of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) amino acid residues +22 to +29 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (b) amino acid residues +48 to +56 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (c) amino acid residues +62 to +73 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (d) amino acid residues +78 to +85 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (e) amino acid residues +88 to +95 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (f) amino acid residues +99 to +105 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (g) amino acid residues +118 to +126 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (h) amino acid residues +139 to +146 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (i) amino acid residues +151 to +169 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (j) amino acid residues +188 to +206 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (k) amino acid residues +208 to +231 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (l) amino acid residues +264 to +271 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (m) amino acid residues +286 to +293 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (n) amino acid residues +300 to +313 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (o) amino acid residues +317 to +342 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (p) amino acid residues +347 to +353 of SEQ ID NO:2; and
- (q) amino acid residues +363 to +369 of SEQ ID NO:2,

wherein the polypeptide consisting of said amino acid sequence is fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

20. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide consisting of at least 30 contiguous amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO:2.

21. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 20, consisting of at least 50 contiguous amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO:2.

22. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 20 wherein said polypeptide inhibits the differentiation and/or proliferation of immune cells.

23. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide consisting of at least 30 contiguous amino acid residues encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641.

24. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 23, consisting of at least 50 contiguous amino acid residues encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641.

25. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 23 wherein said polypeptide inhibits the differentiation and/or proliferation of immune cells.

26. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide comprising a first amino acid sequence 90% or more identical to a second amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) amino acids +1 to +371 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (b) amino acids +2 to +371 of SEQ ID NO:2; and
- (c) amino acids +23 to +371 of SEQ ID NO:2;

wherein the isolated polypeptide comprising said first amino acid sequence stimulates immune cell proliferation.

27. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 26 wherein said first amino acid sequence is 90% or more identical to said second amino acid sequence (a).

28. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 26 wherein said first amino acid sequence is 90% or more identical to said second amino acid sequence (b).

29. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 26 wherein said first amino acid sequence is 90% or more identical to said second amino acid sequence (c).

30. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 26 wherein said first amino acid sequence is 95% or more identical to said second amino acid sequence (a).

31. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 26 wherein said first amino acid sequence is 95% or more identical to said second amino acid sequence (b).

32. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 26 wherein said first amino acid sequence is 95% or more identical to said second amino acid sequence (c).

33. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 26 wherein said first amino acid sequence further comprises a heterologous polypeptide sequence.

34. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 33 wherein said heterologous polypeptide is the Fc domain of immunoglobulin.

35. (previously presented) A composition comprising the isolated polypeptide of claim 26 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

36. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide comprising a first amino acid sequence 90% or more identical to a second amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) an amino acid sequence of the full length polypeptide encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641;

(b) an amino acid sequence of the full length polypeptide, excluding the N-terminal methionine residue, encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641; and

(c) an amino acid sequence of the mature polypeptide encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641;

wherein the polypeptide comprising said first amino acid sequence stimulates immune cell proliferation.

37. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 36 wherein said first amino acid sequence is 90% or more identical to said second amino acid sequence (a).

38. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 36 wherein said first amino acid sequence is 90% or more identical to said second amino acid sequence (b).

39. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 36 wherein said first amino acid sequence is 90% or more identical to said second amino acid sequence (c).

40. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 36 wherein said first amino acid sequence is 95% or more identical to said second amino acid sequence (a).

41. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 36 wherein said first amino acid sequence is 95% or more identical to said second amino acid sequence (b).

42. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 36 wherein said first amino acid sequence is 95% or more identical to said second amino acid sequence (c).

43. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 36 wherein said polypeptide further comprises a heterologous polypeptide sequence.

44. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 43 wherein said heterologous polypeptide is the Fc domain of immunoglobulin.

45. (previously presented) A composition comprising the isolated polypeptide of claim 36 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

46. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid molecule comprising a polynucleotide which hybridizes to the complement of the polynucleotide set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 wherein said hybridization occurs under conditions comprising hybridization in a buffer consisting essentially of 50% formamide, 5X SSC, 50 mM sodium phosphate (pH 7.6), 5X Denhardt's solution, 10% dextran sulfate, and 20 ug/ml denatured, sheared salmon sperm DNA at 42°C and wash in a solution consisting of 0.1X SSC

at 65°C, and wherein said polypeptide stimulates the proliferation and/or differentiation of immune cells.

47. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 46 comprising a heterologous polypeptide sequence.

48. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 47 wherein said heterologous polypeptide sequence is that of the Fc domain of immunoglobulin.

49. (previously presented) A composition comprising the isolated polypeptide of claim 46 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

50. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid molecule comprising a polynucleotide which hybridizes to the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641 wherein said hybridization occurs under conditions comprising hybridization in a buffer consisting essentially of 50% formamide, 5X SSC, 50 mM sodium phosphate (pH 7.6), 5X Denhardt's solution, 10% dextran sulfate, and 20 ug/ml denatured, sheared salmon sperm DNA at 42°C, and wash in a solution consisting of 0.1X SSC at 65°C, and wherein said polypeptide stimulates the proliferation and/or differentiation of immune cells.

51. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 50 comprising a heterologous polypeptide sequence.

52. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 51 wherein said heterologous polypeptide is the Fc domain of immunoglobulin.

53. (previously presented) A composition comprising the isolated polypeptide of claim 50 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

54. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence, wherein, except for one to 30 amino acid substitutions, said amino acid sequence is identical to contiguous amino acid residues selected from the group consisting of:

(a) amino acid residues +1 to +371 of SEQ ID NO:2;

(b) amino acids residues +2 to +371 of SEQ ID NO:2;

- (c) amino acids residues +23 to +371 of SEQ ID NO:2; and
- (d) amino acids residues +23 to +231 of SEQ ID NO:2;

wherein said isolated polypeptide stimulates immune cell proliferation.

55. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence, wherein, except for one to 30 amino acid substitutions, said amino acid sequence is identical to contiguous amino acid residues selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) an amino acid sequence of the full length polypeptide encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641;

- (b) an amino acid sequence of the full length polypeptide, excluding the N-terminal methionine residue, encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641; and

- (c) an amino acid sequence of the mature polypeptide encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641;

wherein said isolated polypeptide stimulates immune cell proliferation.

56. (previously presented) An isolated protein comprising a polypeptide consisting of a fragment of SEQ ID NO:2 which fragment inhibits immune cell proliferation.

57. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide comprising a first amino acid sequence 90% or more identical to a second amino acid sequence of the soluble extracellular domain of the polypeptide encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641, wherein the polypeptide comprising said first amino acid sequence acts to inhibit immune cell proliferation.